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INFO WESTERN HEMISPHERIC AFFAIRS DIPL POSTS IMMEDIATE
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL IMMEDIATE
RHMFISS/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUCPDOG/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE
RUEHC/DEPT OF LABOR WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 MANAGUA 000027

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 2019/12/30

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [KDEM](#) [PHUM](#) [EAID](#) [SOCI](#) [VE](#) [NU](#)

SUBJECT: Nicaragua in ALBA - Three Years and Still Going

REF:

- A) 09 MANAGUA 1318 - FSLN SOCIAL PROGRAMS POLITICIZED
- B) 09 USUN NEW YORK 1133 - WHA DELEGATIONS AT THE 64TH UNGA
- C) 09 MANAGUA 1164 - NICARAGUAN EXPORTS TO VENEZUELA
- D) 09 MANAGUA 1135 - NICARAGUA'S INSTITUTIONAL COUP
- E) 09 MANAGUA 599 - ORTEGA RESPONDS TO MCC CANCELLATION
- F) 09 MANAGUA 425 - ORTEGA THREATENS TO EXPEL U.S. DIPLOMATS
- G) 09 MANAGUA 359 - VENEZUELAN FUNDS REMAIN OFF BUDGET
- H) 09 MANAGUA 259 - ALBA ENTITY BUYS RANCH AND HOTEL
- I) 09 MANAGUA 1145 - CENTRAL BANK ON VENEZUELAN ASSISTANCE
- J) 09 MANAGUA 571 - IMF ON VENEZUELAN ASSISTANCE
- K) 08 MANAGUA 1351 - NICARAGUA'S MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

CLASSIFIED BY: RobertJCallahan, Ambassador, State, Embassy Managua; REASON: 1.4(B), (D)

- [1](#). (C) Summary: President Daniel Ortega announced Nicaragua's entry into the Bolivarian Alliance for the Americas (ALBA) on January 11, 2007, ALBA - The Answer to All Your Problems ... and People Believe It
- [2](#). (C) Since entering office in 2007, Ortega has used the promise of ALBA funds (which come from Venezuela) to address a range of social and i
- [3](#). (C) While Venezuela has delivered funds to Ortega, a major concern is that much of this "assistance" is not transparent, remains off-budge
- [4](#). (C) Whether or not Venezuelan ALBA funds provide meaningful development assistance to the Nicaraguan population, the people believe that Ve
- A recent public opinion poll showed that 39.4% of the population believed Venezuela was the country that most supported Nicaragua, while the Un
- ALBA - The Anti-Yankee, Unconditional Support Group
- [5](#). (C) In ALBA, Ortega has found a place that supports and fuels his anti-Americanism. As noted by opposition leader Edmundo Jarquin (a former
- [6](#). (C) Ortega also uses ALBA to coordinate foreign policy in other arenas and portray himself as an international player. Immediately after th
- [7](#). (C) Finally, ALBA has provided Ortega with international support during critical moments. The United States, Canada, and European countries
- Comment
- [8](#). (C) Since entering office in 2007, Ortega has attached himself to the hip of ALBA. Domestically he proclaims it as the great savior to heal
- CALLAHAN